

**For Immediate Release**

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## **AMBASSADOR SAYS EQUATORIAL GUINEA HAS REACHED MAJOR DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

**MALABO, Equatorial Guinea** (May 16, 2011) – Equatorial Guinea's United Nations permanent Representative, Anatolio Ndong Mba, said last week that the country has achieved some of its major development goals by eradicating malaria in more than a third of the population, and making significant improvements in the country's infrastructure, education and public health. Moving the country toward a sustainable and emergent economy is part of the ambitious goals set by President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo in his Horizon 2020 development plan.

"The goals of the Horizon 2020 development plan were put in place to establish sustainable development for Equatorial Guinea by 2020 that means potable water, education, health, food security, communication, infrastructure, tourism development, environment preservation in the country," said Ambassador Ndong on an interview with South South News.

Ambassador Ndong highlighted how Equatorial Guinea has one of the highest alphabetization levels in Africa, has worked with HIV advocacy, and how it has collaborated with international NGOs on endangered species preservation. He also pointed out how the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Teodoro Nguema Obiang Mangue, is working with the private sector to establish cooperatives to help farmers develop agriculture by providing technical assistance from the government and other countries. Ambassador Ndong went on to highlight how important is it to invest in training and education in order to move toward a more sustainable economy.

Next month, Equatorial Guinea is hosting the African Union Summit, where 57 heads of states will attend and be able to see the significant progress the country has made in infrastructure and other areas.

### ***About Equatorial Guinea***

The Republic of Equatorial Guinea (República de Guinea Ecuatorial) is the only Spanish-speaking country in Africa, and one of the smallest nations on the continent. In the late-1990s, American companies helped discover the country's oil and natural gas resources, which only within the last five years began contributing to the global energy supply. Equatorial Guinea is now working to serve as a pillar of stability and security in its region of West Central Africa. The country will host the 2011 Summit of the African Union. For more information, visit <http://www.guineaecuatorialpress.com>.

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